

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment cancels original claims 1-10 in the underlying PCT Application No. PCT/EP98/08057, and adds new claims 11-21. The new claims do not add new matter to the application but do conform the claims to U.S. Patent and Trademark Office rules.

The amendments to the specification and abstract are to conform the specification and abstract to U.S. Patent and Trademark Office rules and do not introduce new matter into the application.

The underlying PCT application includes an International Search Report (copy included).

Conclusion

Consideration of the present application as amended is hereby respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

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